

Defense Information School Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

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MSgt Bill Scherer, USAF

SSG Theresa Coble, USA

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MSgt Julie Blackburn, USAF

SSgt Bryce Piper, USMC

SSG Kevin Quill, USA

SSG Debra Thompson, USA

SSG Jeffrey Lacap, USA

SSG Luke Burns, USA

SSG Alan Davis, USA

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Television Skills

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SFC David Green, USA

(M)Sgt Dan Velez, USAF

(M)Sgt Samantha Lowe, USAF

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TSgt Franz Chenet, USAF

TSgt Robert Hempel, USAF

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THE DEFENSE INFORMATION SCHOOL



FORT GEORGE G. MEADE MARYLAND

**Graduation Exercise
Basic Public Affairs Specialist
Broadcaster Course
Class # 090-07**

15 June 2007 - 12 September 2007

12 September 2007
1:30 p.m.

Invocation

Opening Remarks

Guest Speaker
Mr. Rick Blackburn

Presentation of Diplomas and Awards

Basic Public Affairs Specialist-Broadcaster Course

The 11-week Basic Public Affairs Specialist-Broadcaster course trains enlisted and DoD civilian students for worldwide American Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) assignments. BPAS-B course students experience and employ the latest techniques and state-of-the-art equipment in writing and announcing skills, radio and television studio operations, and field television production. They are also trained in policies, programming, and the use of AFRTS materials.

***BPAS-B Graduates
And
Duty Assignments***

TSgt Deidre Berg, USAF.....Yokota AB, Japan
SSgt Sandra Bradley, USAF.....Scott AFB, IL
AB Cameron Currie, USAF.....Vandenberg AFB, CA
SPC Troy Darling, USA.....Fort Bragg, NC
TSgt Ronald Flack, USAF.....Cannon AFB, NM
AB Melissa Hay, USAF.....Scott AFB, IL
AB Jonathan Hernandez, USAF.....Grand Forks AFB, ND
AB Ashley Hinojosa, USAF.....Nellis AFB, NV
SPC Matthew Klene, USA.....Fort Bragg, NC
Amn Kathryn Lozier, USAF.....Langley AFB, VA
TSgt Kenneth Lustig, USAF.....Vandenberg AFB, CA
A1C Josh Mullenary, USAF.....Cannon AFB, NM
SSgt Matthew Pardini, USAF.....Charleston AFB, NC
PFC Jason Spinella, USMC.....Okinawa, Japan
SrA Trinity Stevens, USAF.....Hurlburt Field, FL
SrA Andre Trinidad, USAF.....March ARB, CA
A1C Chad Usher, USAF.....Vandenberg AFB, CA
SGT William Valentine, USA.....Jackson, MS
SSgt Jared Whitecar, USAF.....Cannon AFB, NM

Class Leader

MSgt Sebastiano Marino, USAF.....Vandenberg AFB, CA

Mr. Rick Blackburn

Mr. Rick Blackburn is currently the acting Director of Broadcast Operations at the Soldiers Media Center (SMC) in Arlington, Virginia and has worked in military broadcasting for over 25 years.

Mr. Blackburn spent 22 years on active duty as an Air Force broadcaster. His military assignments included Okinawa, Japan; Athens, Greece; San Antonio, Texas; Keflavic, Iceland; and Aviano, Italy. He has worked as a radio personality, news anchor, news director, operations chief, and station commander. He spent six months deployed to Bosnia during NATO's Operation JOINT FORGE, and installed AFRTS cable head-end systems at forward operating bases all over Central Asia at the onset of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

Mr. Blackburn retired from active duty in August of 2002 and soon started his civil servant career. His initial civilian position was as the Air Force News Agency's Chief of Plans and later, as the AFNEWS Inspector General. In 2004, he transferred to the Army Broadcasting Service, later named the Soldiers Media Center, as the Chief of Plans and Training. He was promoted to Chief of Network Operations in 2006.

Mr. Blackburn is a graduate of the Defense Information School Basic Broadcasting Course, Broadcast Manager's Course, Air Force Inspector General Course, Joint Operations Planning and Execution Course and honor graduate of the Air Force's NCO Leadership Course and Air Force Non-Commissioned Officer's Course.

Rick is married to Air Force Master Sergeant Julie Ann Blackburn. Together, they live in Hanover, Maryland with four children, Lindsay, Jarrett, Jaylen and McKenzie.

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